

12 May 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

Baptist Care Australia welcomes Morrison Government's record investment in vital services

Baptist Care Australia welcomes the Federal Government's Budget announcement yesterday with record investment across a wide range of areas to aid in Australia's recovery from the COVID-19 downturn.

"Yesterday's budget sees a great intent to invest in vital services to help vulnerable Australian's including in aged care, domestic violence and mental health services," said Executive Director, Mrs Nicole Hornsby.

"As a member of the Australian Aged Care Collaboration (AACC) we are pleased to see the record aged care funding increase of \$17.7 billion over the next four years.

"This investment is a good move forward in transforming an aged care sector that has been unable to meet the needs of Australians through makeshift funding fixes.

"We are looking forward to the opportunity to work collaboratively with the AACC and the Morrison Government to implement reforms for the benefit of vulnerable people across the country."

Mrs Hornsby said that despite significant investment in home care packages, this fails to protect those who don't have a home.

"There are still many children, young people and families doing it tough, with no increase to JobSeeker and a missed opportunity to invest in social and affordable housing.

"Everybody's Home outlined that the lack of support in housing particularly shows there has been a failure to invest in the potential of vulnerable Australians.

"This budget has made good progress towards investing in Australia's women, we are especially pleased to see support towards domestic violence and supplementary funding to homelessness services, although we continue to witness a surge in demand for these services and look forward to future increases to funding," said Mrs Hornsby.

ENDS

Media Contact: Zanthé Heaton, zanthetheaton@baptistcareaustralia.org.au

Baptist Care Australia works to bring equality and opportunity to Australian communities. We are a voice for hope, speaking out for a fair society that includes and respects everyone. Our advocacy is backed by the practical care and support our members give to thousands of people each year across the country.